

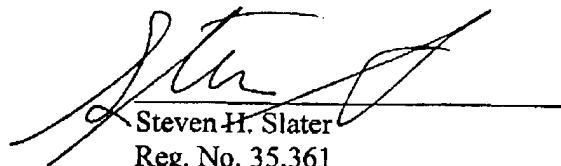
REMARKS

Pending claims 1 – 12 have been finally rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0074598 to Doyle et al. ("Doyle") (claims 1, 3, 6, and 7) or as being obvious over Doyle, either alone (claims 4, 5) or in combination with other references (claims 2 and 8 - 12). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the claims.

In response to a prior rejection of the claims, Applicants had argued that Doyle fails to teach or suggest an impurity region that is laterally spaced from the source and drain regions. In response, Examiner has identified Figure 17 of Doyle and has asserted that void 142 satisfies this claim limitation. Applicants respectfully traverse because void 142 is not an "impurity region," as required by the claim. In fact, void 142 is the antithesis of an impurity region – it is the absence of impurities. Figure 17 is the only figure of Doyle that shows an element that is laterally spaced from the source and drain regions (the other figures, such as figures 7, 10, 16, and 18, show elements that are substantially aligned with the source and drain regions). Unlike the other figures, however, figure 17 does not show impurities implanted in the substrate, but rather only shows a "void" in the substrate. See, e.g., paragraph 47 of Doyle. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that Doyle fails to teach or show an "impurity region" that is laterally spaced from the source and drain regions, and hence claim 1 is patentable over the reference. Claims 2 through 12 are patentably distinct over Doyle by virtue of their dependence from claim 1 as well as their respective further defining limitations.

Applicants respectfully request that the final rejection of claims 1 – 12 be withdrawn and that the application be promptly passed to issuance. Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' below-identified attorney to address any comments or concerns regarding this application.

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